

Follow Me

John 21:18-25

John 21:18

Peter, listen to me!

When you were younger, youthful, newborn, youthful you got dressed and went wherever you wanted to go.

When you get old and senile, another will have to dress you and direct you.

You will have to go where they tell you

Young: At this time Peter middle-aged

When John wrote these words Peter dead.

Put to death by Nero.

Girdedst thyself. Maybe-- Peter girded himself and jumped out of boat

Romans place necks of those to be crucified into yoke.

Stretch out hands...attach to end of yoke.

Lead through city

Stretch hands out.... gird them (bound them), carry to place didn't want to be.

Gird arms and torso to tree

John 21:19

Prediction that Peter die martyr's death.

Requested be crucified upside down.

Follow me.

Mat 5:48 John 13:13-15 1 Cor 4:16 1 Cor 11:1

Phil 4:9 *Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.*

Philippians 3:17

Followers together: co-imitators

Bottom line of discipleship: Make someone just like you.

Hopefully, just like Christ.

and mark them ... take aim at, regard, observe lifestyle

1. Imitate example.
2. Let's take a walk and talk
3. Die like I died
4. Be willing to bear cross like me

Centuries of Great Preaching:. One Salvation Army officer came into a meeting loaded down with dead cats and rats; he explained these had been thrown at him; and that he caught and held the dead animals because if he dropped them the crowd would merely pick them up to be thrown again. ... At first the police did little to stop the "Skeleton Army."

Instead of helping they frequently harassed Booth and his followers.”

Clyde E. Fant, Jr. and William M. Pinson, Jr.,

Why Peter pursue life that come to end by crucifixion?

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 *For the love of Christ constraineth us; ...*

Held together by, preoccupied by ...

Pressured and compelled by love of Christ.

Love of Christ had tight grip on heart and life.

Hemmed in by love of Christ.

Love so amazing, so divine

Demands my life, my soul, my all

What true of person compelled by love of Christ?

John 14:21 ^Hears and heeds God's call

Hudson Taylor, ... *I gave my life because of my love for Jesus Christ.*

Acts 9:15-16 ... *For I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.*

When person gripped by love of Christ--do anything Jesus wants him to do

Hughes: *The love of Christ so grips His followers that they no longer want to live for themselves but for Him, and that will mean obedience and mission and hardship and suffering.*

John 21:20-21

Jesus and Peter began walking.

The one who leaned on Jesus' breast at supper--typical of John's reference to himself.

Lord, and what shall this man do? ... what about him?

Is he going to suffer, too?

John 21:22

If he stays alive until I come back then that is not your concern.

What is that to thee? Mind your own business.

My will for you may be completely different than my will for John.

Don't compare yourself with John.

Hughes: *Each of our lives is a sovereign creation of God. Our worth and our effectiveness, God's favor in our lives, is not to be determined by comparison with others. We are not to be involved in unprofitable musings about the relative providences of our lives—how one brother has it easier than another, or how one ministry is fraught with hardship and another is not, or why one believer becomes famous and another remains obscure. We are each simply to follow Christ.*

John 21:23

The rumor mill--John won't die.

Not what Jesus said.

Even among the early Christians....don't accurately interpret Word of God.

John writing these words nearly 50 years later.

John 21:24

This proves that the unnamed apostle in this book truly John.

and we know that his testimony is true. This man has never lied
Reputation for speaking truth.

Phillips: *John was a credible witness. He had been with Jesus from the beginning of His public ministry. He had been close to him. As his first cousin, he had known him for years. He had been a loyal disciple from beginning to end, an eyewitness of the magnificent drama of God's manifestation in human flesh. ...*

John 21:25

If there were a man who could write down all accounts of life of Jesus the information would be infinite.

Amen: so it is. So be it.

Barnes: *This gospel contains in itself the clearest proof of inspiration. ...*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made:
Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky.*

So what?

1. Follow me

Imitate my example.

Be willing to bear your cross like me

Will you follow Jesus?

Will you align your life and time with His life and time?

2. Love me

The love of Christ constrains you?

Have you ever committed your heart to Christ.

Purposed to love Him with all your heart...soul...mind.